

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Mark Blasdel, on March 31, 2017 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Mark Blasdel, Chair (R)
Sen. Roger Webb, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Sue Malek (D), Sen. Scott Sales (R), Sen. Fred Thomas (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jaret Coles, Legislative Branch
Olivia Hopkins, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 554, 3/28/2017; HB 573, 3/28/2017; HB 574, 3/28/2017;
HB 583, 3/28/2017

00:00:36 Chairman Blasdel

HEARING ON HB 574

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:21 Rep. Greg Hertz (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 574, Allow business deductions for expenses reduced by federal credits.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:37 George Olson, Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants (MSCPA)

00:02:58 Sen. Pomnichowski entered the meeting.

00:07:23 Robert Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MONTAX)

00:07:59 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony:

00:08:21 Mike Kadas, director, Montana Department of Revenue

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:11:00 Sen. McClafferty

00:11:21 Mr. Story, MONTAX

00:11:37 Mr. Olson, MSCPA

00:12:24 Sen. Cohenour

00:12:55 Mr. Olson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:13:08 Rep. Hertz

00:13:29 Chairman Blasdel

HEARING ON HB 583

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:13:37 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 583, Revise property taxes for forest land with residential or commercial use.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:15:13 Rocky Haralson, Montana Department of Revenue

Opponents' Testimony:

00:16:19 Michael Christianson, Montana Forest Owners Association (MFOA)
[EXHIBIT\(tas67a01\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:25 Sen. Barrett
00:23:17 Mr. Christianson, MFOA
00:23:29 Sen. Barrett
00:25:01 Mr. Christianson
00:25:48 Sen. Barrett
00:26:19 Mr. Christianson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:27:03 Rep. White
00:29:52 Chairman Blasdel

HEARING ON HB 554

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:02 Rep. Becky Beard (R), HD 80, opened the hearing on HB 554, Clarify laws related to property tax assistance programs.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:33:15 Gordy Conn, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:33:32 Sen. Barrett
00:34:06 Mr. Conn, DOR
00:35:28 Sen. Barrett
00:35:41 Sen. Webb
00:35:55 Mr. Conn
00:36:18 Sen. Webb
00:36:37 Mr. Conn

Closing by Sponsor:

00:36:52 Rep. Beard

00:37:23 Chairman Blasdel

HEARING ON HB 573

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:37:27 Rep. Rob Cook (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 573, Revise education funding laws related to tax increment financing.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:38:11 Dan Lloyd, Governor's Office
00:39:24 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties
00:40:55 Jason Rittal, Montana Economic Development Association
00:41:52 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip and City of Glendive
00:42:29 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
00:46:55 Amiee Grmoljez, City of Bozeman
00:48:07 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce
00:48:47 John MacDonald, City of Missoula

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:49:29 Sen. Hoven
00:50:09 Ms. Lynch, MLCT

Closing by Sponsor:

00:50:49 Rep. Cook
00:51:27 Chairman Blasdel

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:52 AM

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tas67aad.pdf](#))